[English]

Privatisation of Air Services

*4547. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government had provided planes to political parties for election purposes;

(b) if so, the amount received from the political parties;

(c) whether there is any proposal to privatise the air services to render better service to the public;

(d) if so, the economic viability of these air services; and

(e) the action, the Government propose to take to modernise air services?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Through the Air Taxi Scheme, the Government has liberalised the framework for the operation of domestic air services by private parties.

(d) It is for the private parties to assess the viabilityof the air services they propose to operate.

(e) The fleet renewal programme of the two national carries is constantly reviewed by the Government.

Production of Diesel

4548. SHRI C. SRINIVASAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage shortfall in the production of diesel during 1991-92 as compared to 1990-91

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to meet its demand in the country;

(c) whether the Government propose to introduce rationing in the supply of petrol and diesel; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) As per original estimates the production of HSD during 1991-92 was to be about 2.18 per cent lower than during 1990-91. HSD is also imported to meet the demand.

(c) No, Sir

(d) Does not arise.

Agreement With Portugal for Tourism Development

4549. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR KANODIA:
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement has been signed between India and Portugal for the development of Tourism;

(b) if so, when and the details thereof; and

(c) the specific areas in the country which are proposed to be developed and the targets fixed for their development?